

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 204273

FOR WORTZEL FROM SCHMIDT

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. THE COUNSELLOR'S OFFICE WANTS YOU TO KNOW THAT HE READ WITH GREAT CARE YOUR 5762 ON ECONOMIC NATIONALISM AND SENT IT AROUND FOR OTHERS TO READ. WE AGREED THAT IT WAS EXCELLENT. AND WHILE WE'RE PASSING OUT KUDOS, YOUR LCY PARTY CONGRESS ASSESSMENT WAS FIRST RATE. INR AND CIA AGREE. WE WOULD HAVE SENT A COMMENDATION AT THE TIME, BUT FELT IT MIGHT GO TO YOUR HEAD (OR HEADS).

2. ON THE L'AUREORE ARTICLE, LEDEEN (SPELLING MAY BE WRONG) DESCRIBES HIMSELF AS A FREE-LACE JOURNALIST WHO KNOWS THE AMBASSADOR WELL AND SAW HIM DURING THE TITO VISIT AND OTHER TIMES. HE IS NOW WORKING WITH OR NEAR HAK. WE TOLD HIM THAT YOU HAD NO REACTION TO THE ARTICLE, WHICH ITSELF WAS INDICATIVE OF DOUBTS ABOUT ITS VERACITY.
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IN ANY CASE, WE SENT A COPY OF THE ARTICLE WITH DIANE MONTGOMERY, WHO WILL PROBABLY BE THERE BEFORE THIS MESSAGE IS.

3. WE HAD A SMALL QUESTION ON ONE KEY POINT IN THE AMBASSADOR'S CONVERSATION WITH LONCAR ABOUT THE NONALIGNED MEETING AND FUTURE PROSPECTS (BELGRADE 5718). WE READ

LONCAR'S COMMENT ABOUT YUGOSLAVIA "CHANGING OUR VIEW ON THIS" (PARA 12) AS INDICATING SOME DOUBT ABOUT WHETHER THEY WOULD "WORK ENERGETICALLY AMONG THE NONALIGNED TO CONVINCE THEM THAT THEY SHOULD GO TO HAVANA." WE DID NOT SEE HIS COMMENT, IN THAT CONTEXT, AS IMPLYING THAT YUGOSLAVIA ITSELF WOULD CONSIDER NOT GOING. WE DEFER TO YOUR JUDGEMENT OF WHAT HE MEANT, BUT DID NOT SEE THE REMARK, AS REPORTED, AS HAVING QUITE THE WEIGHT YOU SAW IN IT.

4. INS WAS VERY PLEASED WITH THE RESULTS OF MARTY MENDELSON'S TALKS IN BELGRADE. THEY ARE READY TO MOVE FORWARD ON THE ARTUKOVIC CASE, BUT THEY HAVE A QUESTION WHICH WE CANNOT ANSWER. THEY NEED AN EXPERT WITNESS TO TESTIFY TO THE CHANGED CIRCUMSTANCES IN YUGOSLAVIA SINCE THE CASE WAS FIRST ARGUED (AND DISMISSED) BACK IN THE 50'S. THIS WITNESS WOULD BE NECESSARY TO SUPPORT THE "CHANGE OF DETERMINATION" WHICH INS SEEKS. THE CASE IS VIRTUALLY UNPRECEDENTED, SO THE WITNESS MUST BE CREDIBLE, EXPERIENCED AND AUTHORITATIVE. THEY ASKED WHETHER THE AMBASSADOR WOULD BE WILLING TO APPEAR. WE SAID WE WOULD ASK FOR HIS VIEWS PRIVATELY BEFORE GOING THROUGH WHATEVER CLEARANCES WE WOULD NEED HERE. WE ALSO SUGGESTED SEVERAL OTHER PEOPLE WHO MIGHT BE ABLE TO COMMENT ON CHANGES IN YUGOSLAVIA: JOHN CAMPBELL, FORMER AMBASSADORS
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KENNAN, RIDDLEBURGER AND LEONHART, NICK ANDREWS AND MARK PALMER.

5. BRUCE MCMULLEN CALLED TO ASK THAT THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE BE PASSED TO HIS WIFE: QUOTE: FUNERAL WAS HELD AUGUST 11. EVERYTHING WENT WELL. AM RETURNING ON PA 66 ARRIVING BELGRADE AUGUST 13 AT 1205. PLEASE ADVISE DAVID EVANS OF MY RETURN. LOVE BRUCE. END QUOTE. CHRISTOPHER

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